

Intrinsically acting Pauli principle as the origin of three Standard Model generations of leptons and quarks

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Abstract

We turn back to the hypothesis that the Pauli principle, acting intrinsically within leptons and quarks, is the origin of their three generations. The adequate formalism is based on the generalized Dirac equations arising (in the interaction-free case) from the Klein-Gordon equations through the familiar squared-root procedure (but applied in the generic way). This leads to the existence of *additional* Dirac bispinor indices decoupled from the Standard Model gauge fields, thus nonobserved in these fields and, in consequence, *not distinguishable* from each other. They are treated as dynamical degrees of freedom obeying the Pauli principle along with Fermi statistics. Then, they produce within leptons and quarks the total additional spin equal to zero, and cause the existence of *three and only three* generations of Standard Model leptons and quarks. In the second part of the note we discuss the role of the new generation-weighting factors in building up the spectra of charged leptons and neutrinos.

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The question, why there are three Standard Model generations of leptons and quarks, is fundamental in particle physics and so, in contemporary physics as a whole. With some luck, this question, though it is essentially a part of the profound problem of the origin of particle mass, may be simple enough to get solved independently, perhaps, as a step toward a proper formulation of the mass problem. It is worthwhile to notice that from the methodological point of view the problem of mass introduced already by Newton was not changed essentially from his time (even by the general theory of relativity): particle mass still has the status of a phenomenological parameter (in Higgs mechanism such a role is played by Yukawa coupling constant).

In this note we turn back to the idea [1] that, in fact, the Pauli principle (along with Fermi statistics) bears responsibility for restricting to three the number of lepton and quark generations. In such a case, leptons and quarks ought to be (in a sense) composite in order to provide some additional degrees of freedom, subject to the restricting action of Fermi statistics. However, according to our idea [1], leptons and quarks *are not* composite states of some spatial spin-1/2 preons. Instead, beside the familiar Dirac bispinor index, they *get* some *additional* Dirac bispinor indices, treated as dynamical degrees of freedom obeying the Pauli principle along with Fermi statistics. Due to this statistics, the additional bispinor indices produce the total additional spin equal to zero or one half, and can appear only in five configurations 0,2,4 or 1,3, respectively. So, for leptons and quarks (as fermions), they produce the total additional spin 0 and can appear only in three configurations 0,2,4. Hence, *three and only three* lepton and quark generations can be realized.

Thus, in our construction, the familiar notion of spatial compositeness is replaced by the new notion of algebraic compositeness which arises in an act of abstraction from the previous spatial notion. One can see an analogy of this act of algebraic abstraction with the famous Dirac's act of abstraction that has led to the new algebraic notion of spin 1/2 from the familiar spatial notion of orbital angular momentum. If this analogy has a fundamental character, there are no spatial spin-1/2 preons composing leptons and quarks, much like there is no correct spatial model of spin 1/2. If this analogy works practically,

rather than on a fundamental level, our Dirac bispinor indices involved in leptons and quarks may unveil only the visible summit of an iceberg of some hidden spatial preonic structure of leptons and quarks.

In order to realize the above idea, we used the dynamical model of generalized Dirac particle [1]. To this end, we postulated the generalized Dirac equations reading (in the interaction-free case) as follows:

$$\left(\Gamma^{(N)} \cdot p - M^{(N)}\right) \psi^{(N)}(x) = 0, \quad (1)$$

where the Dirac-type matrices get the form

$$\Gamma_{\mu}^{(N)} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^N \gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)} \quad (2)$$

built up linearly from N elements of the Clifford algebra:

$$\{\gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)}, \gamma_{j\nu}^{(N)}\} = 2\delta_{ij}g_{\mu\nu}. \quad (3)$$

Here, $N = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$ and $\mu, \nu = 0, 1, 2, 3$. From Eqs. (2) and (3) we got for any N the Dirac algebra:

$$\{\Gamma_{\mu}^{(N)}, \Gamma_{\nu}^{(N)}\} = 2g_{\mu\nu}. \quad (4)$$

Thus, $(\Gamma^{(N)} \cdot p)^2 = p^2$, and the Dirac square-root procedure $\sqrt{p^2} \rightarrow \Gamma^{(N)} \cdot p$ works in a generic way, leading (in the interaction-free case) from the Klein-Gordon equations $(p^2 - M^{(N)2})\psi^{(N)}(x) = 0$ to the generalized Dirac equations (1). Writing $\gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)} = \left(\gamma_{i\mu\alpha_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N\beta_1\beta_2\dots\beta_N}^{(N)}\right)$, one can see from Eq. (1) that $\psi^{(N)}(x) = \left(\psi_{\alpha_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N}^{(N)}(x)\right)$, where each $\alpha_i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, N$) is a Dirac bispinor index in the chiral representation.

For $N = 1$ Eq. (1) is evidently the usual Dirac equation, for $N = 2$ it is known as the Dirac form [2] of Kähler equation [3], while for $N \geq 3$ Eq. (1) gives us new generalized Dirac equations [1]. They describe some spin-halfinteger and spin-integer particles for N odd and N even, respectively.

The Dirac-type matrices $\Gamma_{\mu}^{(N)}$ for any N can be embedded into the new Clifford algebra:

$$\{\Gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)}, \Gamma_{j\nu}^{(N)}\} = 2\delta_{ij}g_{\mu\nu}, \quad (5)$$

isomorphic to the previous Clifford algebra (3) of $\gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)}$, where the new elements $\Gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)}$ are defined by the properly normalized Jacobi linear combinations of $\gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{1\mu}^{(N)} &\equiv \Gamma_{\mu}^{(N)} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \left(\gamma_{1\mu}^{(N)} + \dots + \gamma_{N\mu}^{(N)} \right), \\ \Gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)} &\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{i(i-1)}} \left[\gamma_{1\mu}^{(N)} + \dots + \gamma_{i-1\mu}^{(N)} - (i-1)\gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)} \right] \quad (i = 2, \dots, N). \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Thus $\Gamma_{1\mu}^{(N)}$ and $\Gamma_{2\mu}^{(N)}, \dots, \Gamma_{N\mu}^{(N)}$, respectively, present the "centre-of-mass" and "relative" Dirac-type matrices. Note that for any N the generalized Dirac equation (1) does not involve the "relative" Dirac-type matrices $\Gamma_{2\mu}^{(N)}, \dots, \Gamma_{N\mu}^{(N)}$, including solely the "centre-of-mass" Dirac-type matrices $\Gamma_{1\mu}^{(N)} \equiv \Gamma_{\mu}^{(N)}$.

It is not difficult to see that for any N the total spin tensor is given as

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \sigma_{i\mu\nu}^{(N)} = \sum_{i=1}^N \Sigma_{i\mu\nu}^{(N)}, \quad (7)$$

where

$$\sigma_{j\mu\nu}^{(N)} \equiv \frac{i}{2} [\gamma_{j\mu}^{(N)}, \gamma_{j\nu}^{(N)}], \quad \Sigma_{j\mu\nu}^{(N)} \equiv \frac{i}{2} [\Gamma_{j\mu}^{(N)}, \Gamma_{j\nu}^{(N)}]. \quad (8)$$

The total spin tensor (7) becomes the generator of Lorentz transformations for $\psi^{(N)}(x)$.

Now, it is convenient to use for any N the chiral representation of Jacobi-type Clifford matrices $\Gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)} = \left(\Gamma_{i\mu\alpha_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N\beta_1\beta_2\dots\beta_N}^{(N)} \right)$ in place of the chiral representation of individual Clifford matrices $\gamma_{i\mu}^{(N)} = \left(\gamma_{i\mu\alpha_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N\beta_1\beta_2\dots\beta_N}^{(N)} \right)$. Then, one may choose

$$\Gamma_{1\mu}^{(N)} \equiv \Gamma_{\mu}^{(N)} = \gamma_{\mu} \otimes \underbrace{\mathbf{1} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{1}}_{N-1 \text{ times}}, \quad (9)$$

where γ_{μ} and $\mathbf{1}$ are the usual 4×4 Dirac matrices. In this new chiral representation the generalized Dirac equations (1) for $\psi_{i\mu}^{(N)}(x) = \left(\psi_{i\mu\alpha_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N}^{(N)}(x) \right)$ take the forms

$$\left(\gamma \cdot p - M^{(N)} \right)_{\alpha_1\beta_1} \psi_{\beta_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N}^{(N)}(x) = 0, \quad (10)$$

where α_1 and $\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N$ are the "centre-of-mass" and "relative" Dirac bispinor indices, respectively (the latter appear for $N > 1$). Note that in the generalized Dirac equations (10) the "relative" Dirac bispinor indices are free from any coupling, but still are subject to Lorentz transformations.

The Standard Model gauge interactions can be introduced to the generalized Dirac equations (10) by means of the minimal substitution $p \rightarrow p - gA(x)$, where p plays the role of the "centre-of-mass" four-momentum and so, x — the role of "centre-of-mass" four-position. Then,

$$\left[\gamma \cdot (p - gA(x)) - M^{(N)} \right] \psi^{(N)}(x) = 0, \quad (11)$$

where $g\gamma \cdot A(x)$ symbolizes the Standard Model gauge coupling involving within $A(x)$ the familiar weak-isospin and color matrices, the weak-hypercharge dependence as well as the usual 4×4 Dirac chiral matrix $\gamma_5 \equiv i\gamma_0\gamma_1\gamma_2\gamma_3$.

In Eq. (11) the Standard Model gauge fields interact only with the "centre-of-mass" index α_1 that, therefore, is distinguished from the "relative" indices, nonobserved in these fields and, in consequence, not distinguishable from each other. This was the reason, why some years ago we conjectured that the "relative" Dirac bispinor indices $\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N$ are all indistinguishable dynamical objects obeying the Pauli principle along with Fermi statistics requiring the full antisymmetry of wave function $\psi_{\alpha_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N}^{(N)}(x)$ with respect to the indices $\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N$ [4, 1]. Hence, due to this Pauli principle (realized intrinsically), only five values of N satisfying the condition $N - 1 \leq 4$ are allowed, namely $N = 1, 3, 5$ for N odd and $N = 2, 4$ for N even. Then, from the postulate of relativity and the probabilistic interpretation of $\psi^{(N)}(x) \equiv \left(\psi_{\alpha_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N}^{(N)}(x) \right)$ we were able to infer that N odd and N even correspond to states with total spin $1/2$ and total spin 0 , respectively [4, 1].

Thus, the generalized Dirac equation (11), jointly with the Pauli principle (realized intrinsically), justifies the existence in Nature of *three and only three* generations of leptons and quarks. In addition, there should exist *two and only two* generations of spin-0 fundamental bosons (weak-isospin doublets and singlets, and colored singlets and triplets) also coupled to the Standard Model gauge bosons. Note that the lack of one generation of these spin-0 bosons makes the construction of three-generation supersymmetric theory

impossible..

The wave functions or fields of spin-1/2 fundamental fermions (leptons and quarks) of three generations $N = 1, 3, 5$ can be written down in terms of $\psi_{\alpha_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N}^{(N)}(x)$ as follows [4, 1]:

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{\alpha_1}^{(f_1)}(x) &= \psi_{\alpha_1}^{(1)}(x) , \\ \psi_{\alpha_1}^{(f_2)}(x) &= \frac{1}{4} \left(C^{-1} \gamma_5 \right)_{\alpha_2\alpha_3} \psi_{\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3}^{(3)}(x) = \psi_{\alpha_112}^{(3)}(x) = \psi_{\alpha_134}^{(3)}(x) , \\ \psi_{\alpha_1}^{(f_3)}(x) &= \frac{1}{24} \varepsilon_{\alpha_2\alpha_3\alpha_4\alpha_5} \psi_{\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3\alpha_4\alpha_5}^{(5)}(x) = \psi_{\alpha_11234}^{(5)}(x) ,\end{aligned}\tag{12}$$

where $\psi_{\alpha_1\alpha_2\dots\alpha_N}^{(N)}(x)$ ($n = 1, 3, 5$) carry also the Standard Model (composite) label (suppressed in our notation), while C denotes the usual 4×4 charge-conjugation matrix. Writing explicitly, one gets $f_1 = \nu_e, e^-, u, d$, $f_2 = \nu_\mu, \mu^-, c, s$ and $f_3 = \nu_\tau, \tau^-, t, b$, thus each f_i ($i = 1, 2, 3$) carries the same suppressed Standard Model (composite) label. One can see that, due to the full antisymmetry in $\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N$ indices, the wave functions or fields (12) corresponding to $N = 1, 3, 5$ appear (up to the sign) with the multiplicities 1, 4, 24, respectively. Thus, there is defined the generation-weighting matrix [4, 1]

$$\rho^{1/2} = \text{diag}(\rho_1^{1/2}, \rho_2^{1/2}, \rho_3^{1/2}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{29}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{24} \end{pmatrix} ,\tag{13}$$

where $\text{Tr} \rho = 1$. It gives

$$\psi^{(N_i)\dagger}(x) \psi^{(N_i)}(x) = 29 \rho_i \psi^{(f_i)\dagger}(x) \psi^{(f_i)}(x)\tag{14}$$

for $N_i = 1, 3, 5$ and $i = 1, 2, 3$, where $\rho_i = 1/29, 4/29, 24/29$.

One may ask an interesting and in practice important question as to whether experimental lepton and quark mass spectra can be built up efficiently from the numbers $N_i = 1, 3, 5$ numerating generations and from the generation-weighting factors $\rho_i = 1/29, 4/29, 24/29$, ($i = 1, 2, 3$). Some years ago, we obtained a positive answer to it in the case of charged leptons $e_i = e^-, \mu^-, \tau^-$ [4, 1]. In fact, the mass formula

$$m_{e_i} = \mu^{(e)} \rho_i \left(N_i^2 + \frac{\varepsilon^{(e)} - 1}{N_i^2} \right)\tag{15}$$

with $\mu^{(e)} > 0$ and $\varepsilon^{(e)} > 0$ denoting free constants, when rewritten explicitly as

$$m_e = \frac{\mu^{(e)}}{29} \varepsilon^{(e)}, \quad m_\mu = \frac{\mu^{(e)}}{29} \frac{4}{9} (80 + \varepsilon^{(e)}), \quad m_\tau = \frac{\mu^{(e)}}{29} \frac{24}{25} (624 + \varepsilon^{(e)}), \quad (16)$$

leads to the prediction

$$m_\tau = \frac{6}{125} (351 m_\mu - 136 m_e) = 1776.80 \text{ MeV} \quad (17)$$

and determines both constants

$$\mu^{(e)} = \frac{29(9m_\mu - 4m_e)}{320} = 85.9924 \text{ MeV}, \quad \varepsilon^{(e)} = \frac{320m_e}{9m_\mu - 4m_e} = 0.172329. \quad (18)$$

Here, the experimental values $m_e = 0.510999 \text{ MeV}$ and $m_\mu = 105.658 \text{ MeV}$ are used as an input. The prediction (17) is really close to the experimental value $m_\tau = 1776.99^{+0.29}_{-0.26} \text{ MeV}$ [5].

Recently, we considered an analogical question for neutrino mass states $\nu_i = \nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3$ related to active neutrinos ν_e, ν_μ, ν_τ [6]. Since mass neutrinos display experimentally a less hierarchical spectrum than charged leptons, namely

$$7.2 < \Delta m_{21}^2 / (10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2) < 9.1, \quad 1.9 < \Delta m_{32}^2 / (10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2) < 3.0 \quad (19)$$

with the best fits

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 \sim 8.1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \Delta m_{32}^2 \sim 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \quad (20)$$

where $\Delta m_{ji}^2 \equiv m_{\nu_j}^2 - m_{\nu_i}^2$ [7], we used only the generation-weighting factors ρ_i , ignoring the numbers N_i numerating generations.

In the simplest case such a mass formula is

$$m_{\nu_i} = \mu^{(\nu)} \rho_i \quad (21)$$

with $\mu^{(\nu)} > 0$ being a free constant. This implies that

$$m_{\nu_1} : m_{\nu_2} : m_{\nu_3} = 1 : 4 : 24 \quad (22)$$

and

$$\mu^{(\nu)} = m_{\nu_1} + m_{\nu_2} + m_{\nu_3} = 29m_{\nu_1} = \frac{29}{4}m_{\nu_2} = \frac{29}{24}m_{\nu_3}. \quad (23)$$

From Eq. (22)

$$\Delta m_{32}^2 / \Delta m_{21}^2 = \frac{112}{3} \simeq 37, \quad (24)$$

while the experimental estimates (20) give $\Delta m_{32}^2 / \Delta m_{21}^2 \sim 30$. Using the experimental estimates (19) and (20) for Δm_{21}^2 , one gets from Eq. (24) the predictions

$$2.7 < \Delta m_{32}^2 / (10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2) < 3.4 \quad (25)$$

and

$$\Delta m_{32}^2 \sim 3.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \quad (26)$$

as well as

$$m_{\nu_1} \sim 2.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}, m_{\nu_2} \sim 9.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}, m_{\nu_3} \sim 5.6 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV} \quad (27)$$

and

$$\mu^{(\nu)} \sim 6.7 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV}. \quad (28)$$

The values (25) and (26) are too large, though of the correct order.

Good predictions are given by the two-parameter mass formula

$$m_{\nu_i} = \mu^{(\nu)} \rho_i (1 - \beta \delta_{i3}) \quad (29)$$

with $\beta > 0$ denoting a second free parameter. This leads to

$$m_{\nu_1} : m_{\nu_2} : m_{\nu_3} = 1 : 4 : 24(1 - \beta) \quad (30)$$

and

$$\mu^{(\nu)} = \frac{29}{5 + 24(1 - \beta)} (m_{\nu_1} + m_{\nu_2} + m_{\nu_3}) = 29m_{\nu_1} = \frac{29}{4}m_{\nu_2} = \frac{29}{24(1 - \beta)}m_{\nu_3}. \quad (31)$$

From Eq. (30)

$$\Delta m_{32}^2/\Delta m_{21}^2 = \frac{16[36(1-\beta)^2 - 1]}{15} , \quad (32)$$

what gives the value $\Delta m_{32}^2/\Delta m_{21}^2 \sim 30$ consistent with the experimental estimates (20) if

$$\beta \sim 0.10 . \quad (33)$$

So, β is a small parameter. Using the experimental estimates (19) and (20) for Δm_{21}^2 , one obtains from Eqs. (32) and (33) that

$$2.2 < \Delta m_{32}^2/(10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2) < 2.7 \quad (34)$$

and

$$\Delta m_{32}^2 \sim 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \quad (35)$$

as well as

$$m_{\nu_1} \sim 2.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV} , m_{\nu_2} \sim 9.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV} , m_{\nu_3} \sim 5.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV} \quad (36)$$

and

$$\mu^{(\nu)} \sim 6.7 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV} . \quad (37)$$

Here, the experimental estimates (20) for Δm_{21}^2 and Δm_{32}^2 are both the input. But, one of three neutrino masses m_{ν_i} is still a prediction.

The mass formulae for up and down quarks built up along analogical lines were considered in Ref. [8] (there also, an additional parameter was introduced for $i = 3$, as in Eq. (29)).

Alternatively, we may consider the possibility that the neutrino mass formula depends not only on the lepton generation-weighting factors ρ_i but also, very weakly, on the number N_i numerating generations. Then, for example,

$$m_{\nu_i} = \mu^{(\nu)} \rho_i (1 - \eta N_i^2) \quad (38)$$

where a second free parameter $\eta > 0$ is expected to be small. This gives

$$m_{\nu_1} : m_{\nu_2} : m_{\nu_3} = 1 - \eta : 4(1 - 9\eta) : 24(1 - 25\eta) \quad (39)$$

and

$$\mu^{(\nu)} = \frac{29}{29 - 637\eta}(m_{\nu_1} + m_{\nu_2} + m_{\nu_3}) = \frac{29}{1 - \eta}m_{\nu_1} = \frac{29}{4(1 - 9\eta)}m_{\nu_2} = \frac{29}{24(1 - 25\eta)}m_{\nu_3}. \quad (40)$$

From Eq. (39)

$$\Delta m_{32}^2 / \Delta m_{21}^2 = \frac{16[36(1 - 25\eta)^2 - (1 - 9\eta)^2]}{16(1 - 9\eta)^2 - (1 - \eta)^2}, \quad (41)$$

implying the experimentally consistent value $\Delta m_{32}^2 / \Delta m_{21}^2 \sim 30$ if

$$\eta \sim 6.1 \times 10^{-3} \quad (42)$$

(or $\eta \sim 5.6 \times 10^{-2}$). Thus, η is really a small parameter ($\Delta m_{32}^2 / \Delta m_{21}^2 = 112/3 \sim 37$ for $\eta = 0$). With the experimental estimates (19) and (20) for Δm_{21}^2 one gets from Eqs. (41) and (42) that

$$2.2 < \Delta m_{32}^2 / (10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2) < 2.7 \quad (43)$$

and

$$\Delta m_{32}^2 \sim 2.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \quad (44)$$

as well as

$$m_{\nu_1} \sim 2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}, m_{\nu_2} \sim 9.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}, m_{\nu_3} \sim 5.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV} \quad (45)$$

and

$$\mu^{(\nu)} \sim 7.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV}. \quad (46)$$

Here, both experimental estimates (20) for Δm_{21}^2 and Δm_{32}^2 are the input. A prediction is one of three neutrino masses m_{ν_i} .

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